

**Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council
City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia
November 14, 2017 / 6:30 p.m.**

Call to Order

Mayor Reed called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Councilmembers in attendance were James Stephens, Richard Schmidt, Claire Williams, Faye Godwin, and Don Hayes. All members were present. Also present was City Attorney Rick Lindsey. Mayor Reed led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Mayor Reed requested that the agenda be amended as follows:

- 1. Postpone the Santa and Mrs. Claus Proclamation to the December 12, 2017 meeting.*
- 2. Table Agenda Item No. 17-920, Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the terms and conditions of the RTP grant of \$100,000 from Georgia DNR for Cochran Mill Park.*
- 3. Table Agenda Item No. 17-921, Award contract to Denyse to design a gateway sign.*
- 4. Add Agenda Item No. 17-922, action on a lawsuit, after Executive Session Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

Approval of Minutes

- 1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 3, 2017 Councilmember Hayes made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 3, 2017. Councilmember Godwin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

Presentations/Proclamations

- 1. Commendations for Officers Honea and Lynch Police Chief Stoney Mathis presented a Letter of Commendation to Officer Michael Lynch for saving the life of a resident who had overdosed on two separate occasions. Chief Mathis read a Letter of Commendation for Officer Eddie Honea, who was not present at the meeting, for saving the life of an individual by pulling him from a wrecked vehicle which had caught fire.*
- 2. Santa and Mrs. Claus proclamation (Removed from agenda)*

Staff Reports

Financial Update: City Manager Robbie Rokovitz

Mr. Rokovitz announced that Fire Chief Greg Brett and Public Works Director Darold Wendlandt were not present due to family reasons. He said the Rico Road TSPLOST paving project will be completed by the end of the week. He also announced that the

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Tree Lighting will be on December 1st at 6:00 p.m., and the Time Capsule ceremony will be on December 12th before the start of the Council meeting. He gave an update on the financials. The city is 33 percent through the fiscal year as of October 31st. The city has collected 53 percent of and expenditures are 19.6 percent.

Fire Department Report: Greg Brett

Chief Brett was not present. Mayor Reed gave a quick update on his behalf. There were three structure fires on three consecutive days, and the automatic aid agreements with Fairburn and Palmetto are working well. The Fire Department had “live fire” training with the Newnan Fire Department. The staffing level is currently at two paramedics and two EMT’s each 24-hour shift.

Police Department Report: Stoney Mathis

Chief Mathis reported that a part-time officer resigned to take a full-time job elsewhere. There were four investigations in the October – one theft by taking, one fraud/theft, one identity theft/IRS refund theft, and one aggravated assault/simple battery/cruelty to children. Other statistics for September were 198 citations, 300 warnings, 18 parking citations, 32 arrests, 113 dispatched calls, and 55 reports.

Public Works/Parks Report: Darold Wendlandt

Darold Wendlandt was not present.

Community Development: Mike Morton

Mr. Morton reported there were three new house permits and two commercial permits for the same building issued in October. One Certificate of Occupancy was issued, and 78 inspections conducted. The two land disturbance permits, one for a portion of the the Serenbe wastewater treatment plant expansion and one for a medical office building in Serenbe, have been issued. There is an upcoming special event on November 17th -19th on Atlanta Newnan Road near the Serenbe entrance. The Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for November 16th, and discussions on proposed fence regulation revisions is on the agenda.

Election Results: Dana Wicher

City Clerk Dana Wicher reported the election results. For the Mayor’s race, Tom Reed received 618 votes, and Marcia C. Lee received 105. Richard Schmidt was the only candidate to qualify for District 2 Council, and he received 76 votes. For District 4 Council, Alan Merrill received 211 votes, and Rebekah Michaels received 117.

Public Comment

Laurie Searle, 12600 Whiteside Road – thanked everyone for the support helping with Chatt Fest. She reported there was a good turnout. Judy Walker was the event photographer and donated the prints to the city. Two of the top winners in the Blue Ribbon cake contest were men and Mark Prater took second place in the jam contest. Alan Merrill took several awards for the photo contest. The essay contest winner was

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Keionya Edwards.

Mayor Reed thanked Laurie Searle for the amazing amount of work she put into the festival.

Diana Wilson, 8130 Cochran Mill Road – said the city has been awarded the MillionMile Greenway \$10,000 Community Grant. The grant will be used for planning at the new park in Campbellton, and the required \$1,500 match will be donated by Community Brickworks. There will be a community meeting following the Parks Commission meeting on November 28th.

Rebekah Michaels, 9068 Selborne Lane – said she wanted to articulate what an incredible experience she had in the process called democracy. She also acknowledged Alan Merrill for running an awesome campaign.

Public Hearings (None)

Unfinished Business (None)

New Business

- 1. Item 17-918:** Approval of Georgia Tax Refund Intercept Program MOU. *City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. Participation in the program was suggested by Municipal Court Judge Russell Ross. It is used as a last resort to collect debt of those who fail to pay their fines. There is no cost to the city; however, a percentage of the outstanding fines collected will be kept by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve Item No. 17-918. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*
- 2. Item 17-919:** Approval for Fulton County to conduct a site study for construction of a communications tower. *City Manager Robbie Rokovitz presented the item. Fulton County has requested a letter of support from the city so they can move forward with a study to test the feasibility of constructing a communications tower at city hall. Mayor Reed said the tower is primarily for public safety communication, but space could potentially be leased to carriers which could mean better coverage for residents. Councilmember Godwin made a motion to approve Item No. 17-919. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*
- 3. Item 17-920:** Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the terms and conditions of RTP Grant of \$100,000 from the Georgia DNR for Cochran Mill Park. *(Tabled)*
- 4. Item 17-921:** Award contract to Denyse to design a gateway sign. *(Tabled)*

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilmember Schmidt said he was glad the election was over and is glad about the City of Chattahoochee Hills Mayor and City Council encourage citizen participation in the government process. Should you by reason of a disability need a special accommodation or need accessibility information, please contact the City Clerk's office at 770-463-8881.

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city's financial position. He is looking to the next few years, and encouraged residents to get involved.

Councilmember Hayes thanked the volunteers who organized and worked at the festival. He also congratulated the winners of the election.

Councilmember Godwin said that no one on the Chatt Fest committee worked as hard as Laurie Searle. She said it was a wonderful event.

Councilmember Williams said the festival was great and turnout was good. She said the parking lot was full all day.

Mayor Reed said he will be scheduling a series of meetings with residents regarding gravel road conditions and standards. He thanked everyone who worked on Chatt Fest. He also thanked everyone who supported him during the election and thanked the Council for their support.

Executive Session

Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Councilmember Hayes seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:26 p.m.

Councilmember Schmidt made motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:17 p.m.

Councilmember Godwin made a motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 7:21 p.m.

New Business continued

- 5. Item 17-922:** Authorize the Mayor to sign a settlement agreement for the Fulton County Tax Commissioner to issue a possible ad valorem tax refund paid by three auto dealers.

City Attorney Rick Lindsey presented the item. The city's portion of the refund is less than \$500. Councilmember Schmidt made a motion to approve Item No. 17-922.

Councilmember Stephens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn Meeting

Councilmember Hayes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Williams seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Approved this 12th day of December, 2017.

Dana Wicher, City Clerk

Tom Reed, Mayor

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